

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIE-00 BIB-01 /018 R

DRAFTED BY CU/ARTS:ICARSTONES:SM

APPROVED BY CU/ARTS:BNSTEPHENS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 272109

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS; JOFFREY BALLET

RE RETURN TOUR PROPERTIES

REF: A) STATE 140497; B) MOSCOW 10098

1. PAA WASHINGTON HAVING SOME DIFFICULTY ARRANGING RETURN OF ELECTRICS VIA REGULARLY SCHEDULED AIRLINES. THERE IS ALSO RISK OF DELAYS AND LOSS BY SPLITTING ELECTRICS IN TWO SEPARATE SHIPMENTS. PAA NOW IN CONTACT WITH PAA AGENT IN MOSCOW RE USE OF CHARTER FOR ELECTRICS MOSCOW-JFK O/A DECEMBER 20 WITH CRAWFORD CONCURRENCE. DEPT SUPPORTS THIS PROPOSAL AS BEING MOST PRACTICAL. CHARTER COSTS FOR RETURN OF ELECTRICS MOSCOW-JFK DOLS 16,500; COSTS VIA COMMERCIAL AIRLINES DOLS 18,600 (20,000 LBS X 93 CENTS PER POUND). COST PER POUND IS EXISTING CARGO SHIPMENT RATE. CHARTER ARRANGEMENTS WOULD ALLOW FOR RETURN OF MAJOR PORTION IF NOT ALL OF PROPERTIES NOT JUST ELECTRICS. THIS SHOULD RESULT IN GREATER SAVINGS TO SOVS SINCE THEIR WOULD BE NO ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR RETURN BALANCE OF PROPERTIES VIA SURFACE.

2. APPRECIATE EMB OFFICER AND DEPT ESCORT MCGUIRE DISCUSS WITH GOSK AND MOSCOW PAA AGENT IN DETAIL.

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3. ADVISE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE272109
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ICARSTONES:SM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740360-0236
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741242/aaaabjxo.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 STATE 140497, 74 MOSCOW 10098
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS; JOFFREY BALLET RE RETURN TOUR PROPERTIES
TAGS: OEXC, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005